



ADVISORY

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Maryland Department of Health 2025-2026 COVID-19 Vaccine Standing Order

On September 19, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) issued a statewide COVID-19 vaccination [standing order](#) that authorizes qualified health care professionals, including pharmacists¹, to:

- 1) Administer COVID-19 vaccinations using the most current evidence-based guidelines developed by the [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\)](#), [American Academy of Family Physicians \(AAFP\)](#), and [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists \(ACOG\)](#) as standards, and
- 2) Exercise reasonable medical judgment in vaccinating their patient².

MDH remains committed to ensuring widespread access to vaccines and to promoting evidence-based vaccination guidance. For this respiratory season, MDH is recommending that providers follow the evidence-based vaccine guidance issued by the [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\)](#), [American Academy of Family Physicians \(AAFP\)](#), and [American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists \(ACOG\)](#). Pharmacists should discuss COVID-19 vaccinations with their patients. Please see additional resources below for more information:

- [Guidance Letter](#)
- [Standing Order](#)
- [Updated FAQ Page](#)

¹ Pharmacists can administer COVID-19 vaccinations for eligible persons age 3 years and older in accordance with Health Occ. Article, § 12-508(a).

² Authorization does not require providers to offer vaccines and does not mandate individuals to receive vaccines.

In an effort to give timely notice to the pharmacy community concerning important pharmacy topics, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), **Office of Pharmacy Services (OPS)** has developed the **Maryland Medicaid Pharmacy Program Advisory**.

To expedite information timely to the pharmacy and prescriber communities, an email network has been established which incorporates the email lists of the Maryland Pharmacists Association, EPIC, CARE, Long Term Care Consultants, headquarters of all chain drugstores and prescriber associations and organizations.

It is our hope that the information is disseminated to all interested parties. If you have not received this email through any of the previously noted parties or via MDH, please contact the OPS representative at 410-767-1455.